

UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE  
**CERTIFICATE OF CORRECTION**

PATENT NO. : 7,021,437 B2  
APPLICATION NO. : 10/608936  
DATED : April 4, 2006  
INVENTOR(S) : Ghiassi

Page 1 of 13

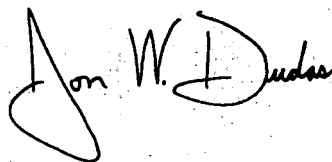
It is certified that error appears in the above-identified patent and that said Letters Patent is hereby corrected as shown below:

The title page showing the illustrative figure should be deleted and substitute with the attached title page.

The drawing sheet, consisting of Fig. 1 – 11b, should be deleted and replaced with drawing sheet, consisting of Fig. 1 – 11b, as shown on the attached page.

Signed and Sealed this

Fourth Day of December, 2007

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Jon W. Dudas". The signature is stylized, with a large, looped "J" and a cursive "Dudas".

JON W. DUDAS  
*Director of the United States Patent and Trademark Office*

(12) **United States Patent**  
**Ghiassi**

(10) Patent No.: **US 7,021,437 B2**  
(45) Date of Patent: **Apr. 4, 2006**

(54) **EXPANDABLE LUGGAGE SYSTEM**

(76) Inventor: **Mohssen Ghiassi**, 62 Rancheria Rd.,  
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(\*) Notice: Subject to any disclaimer, the term of this  
patent is extended or adjusted under 35  
U.S.C. 154(b) by 296 days.

(21) Appl. No.: **10/608,936**

(22) Filed: **Jun. 27, 2003**

(65) **Prior Publication Data**

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(51) **Int. Cl.**

**A45C 7/00 (2006.01)**

**A45C 13/36 (2006.01)**

(52) **U.S. Cl.** ..... 190/103; 190/22; 190/126;  
190/127; 383/2

(58) **Field of Classification Search** ..... 190/103-105,  
190/126, 14, 21, 22, 127; 383/2  
See application file for complete search history.

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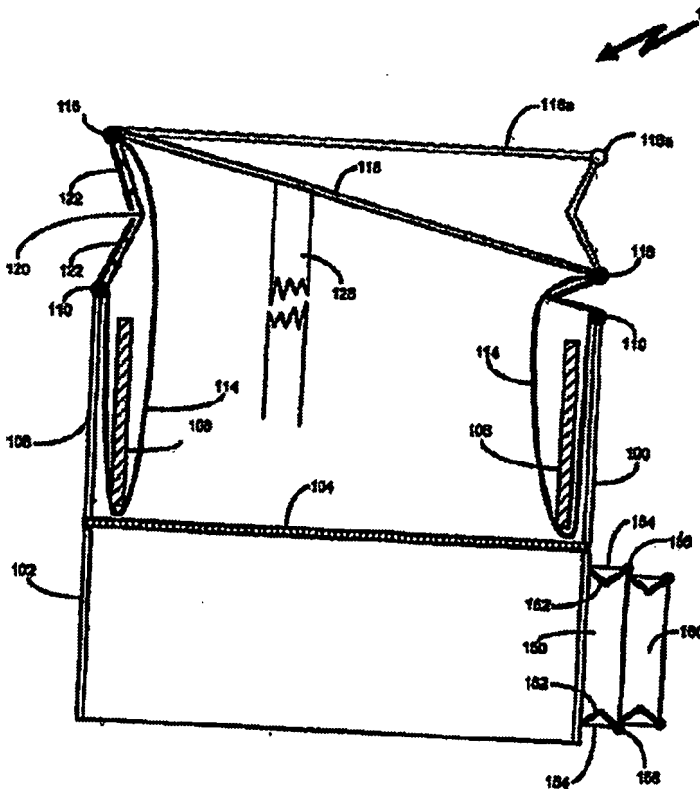
*Primary Examiner*—Sue A. Weaver

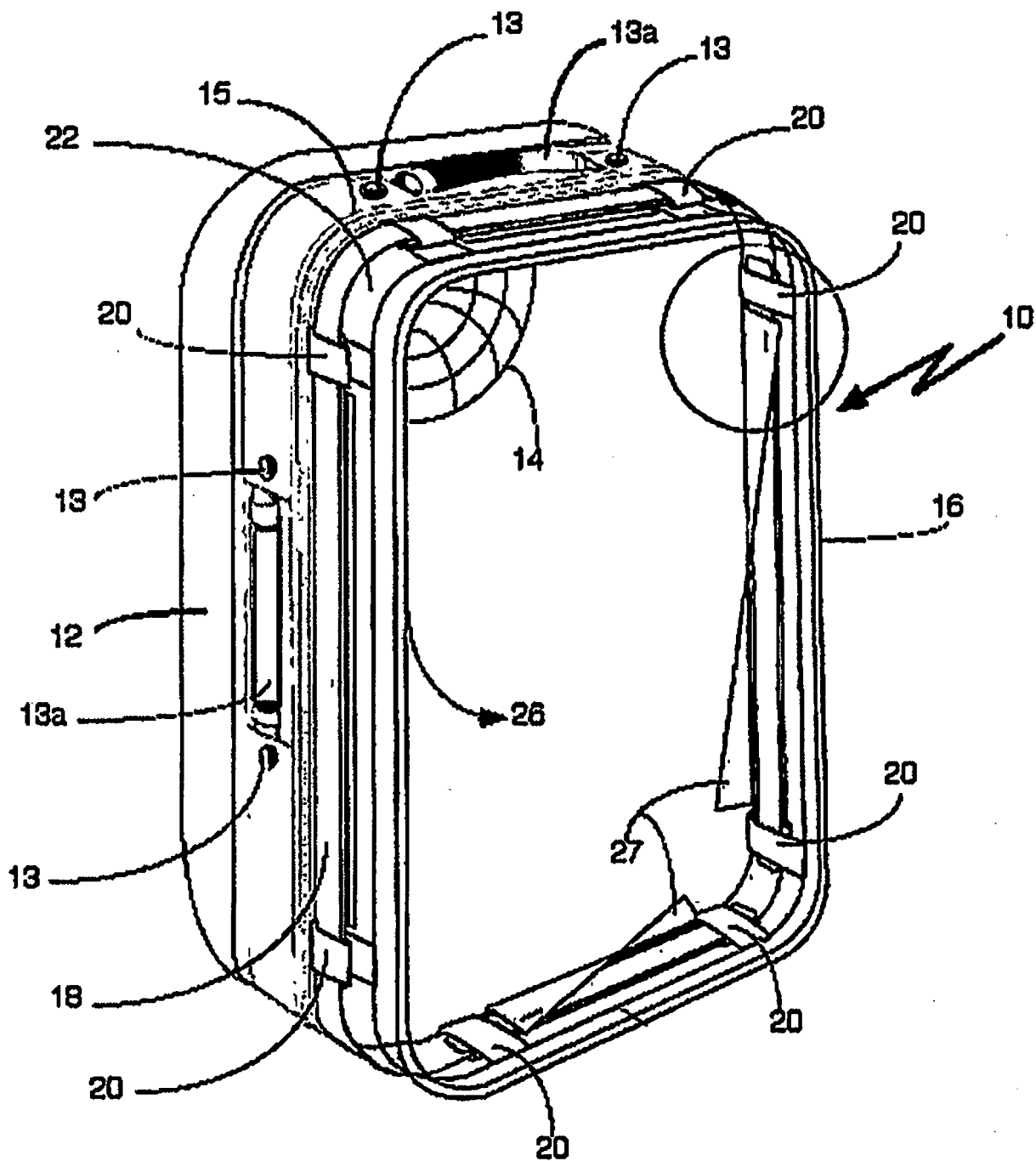
(74) *Attorney, Agent, or Firm*—Risto A. Rinne, Jr.

(57) **ABSTRACT**

An apparatus for the containment of objects includes a container having at least one expandable portion that includes an expandable surface and a plurality of elastomers connected to the container and to the expandable portion that normally supplies a force to the expandable surface to retract it toward the container. When the objects exceed the normal volume in the container and the container is closed, the elastomers expand where needed and to a minimum extent as needed sufficient to accommodate the objects. When the objects do not exceed the normal volume and the container is closed, the elastomers automatically retract the expandable portion into a retracted position.

14 Claims, 11 Drawing Sheets



**FIG. 1**

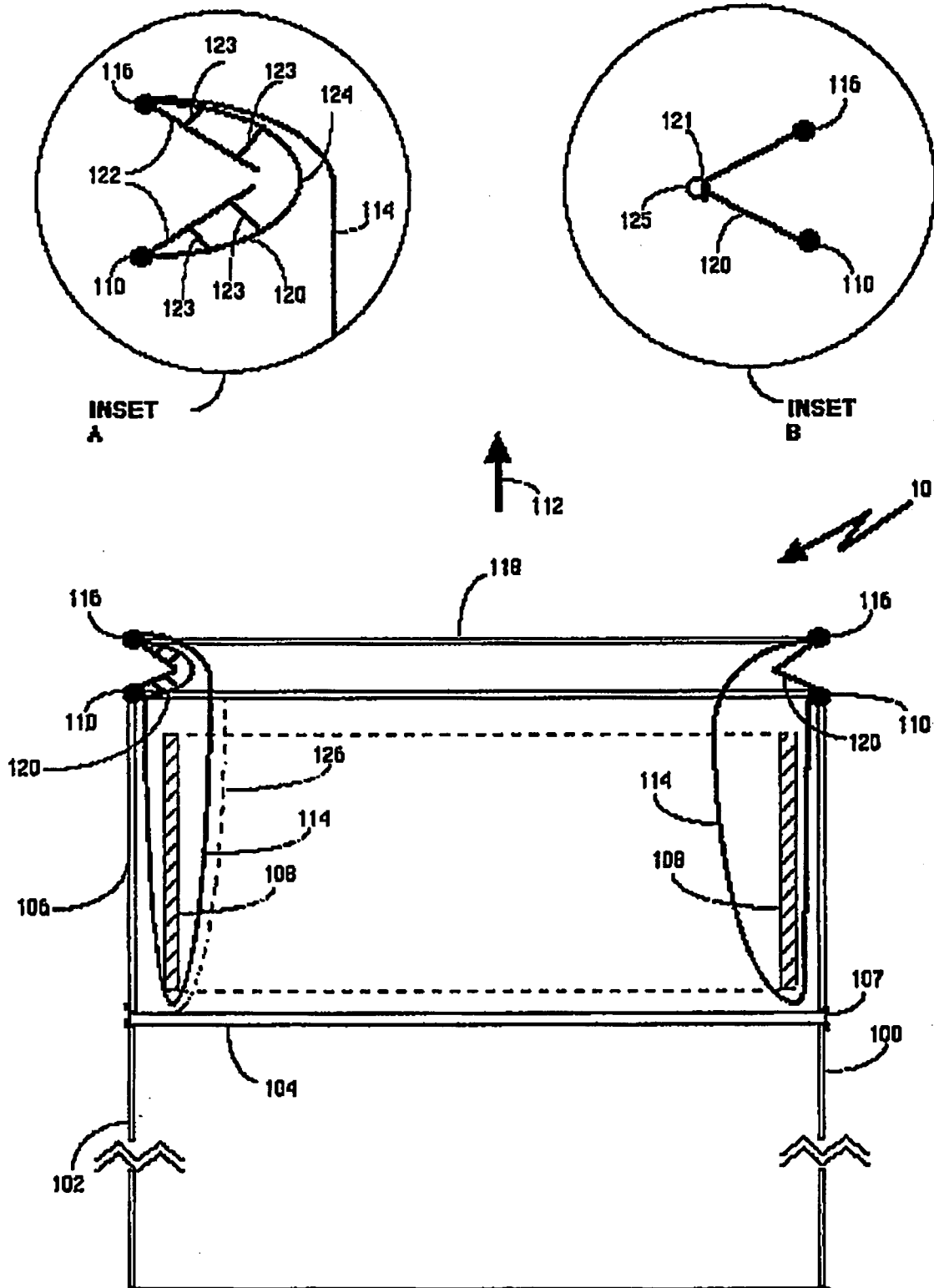
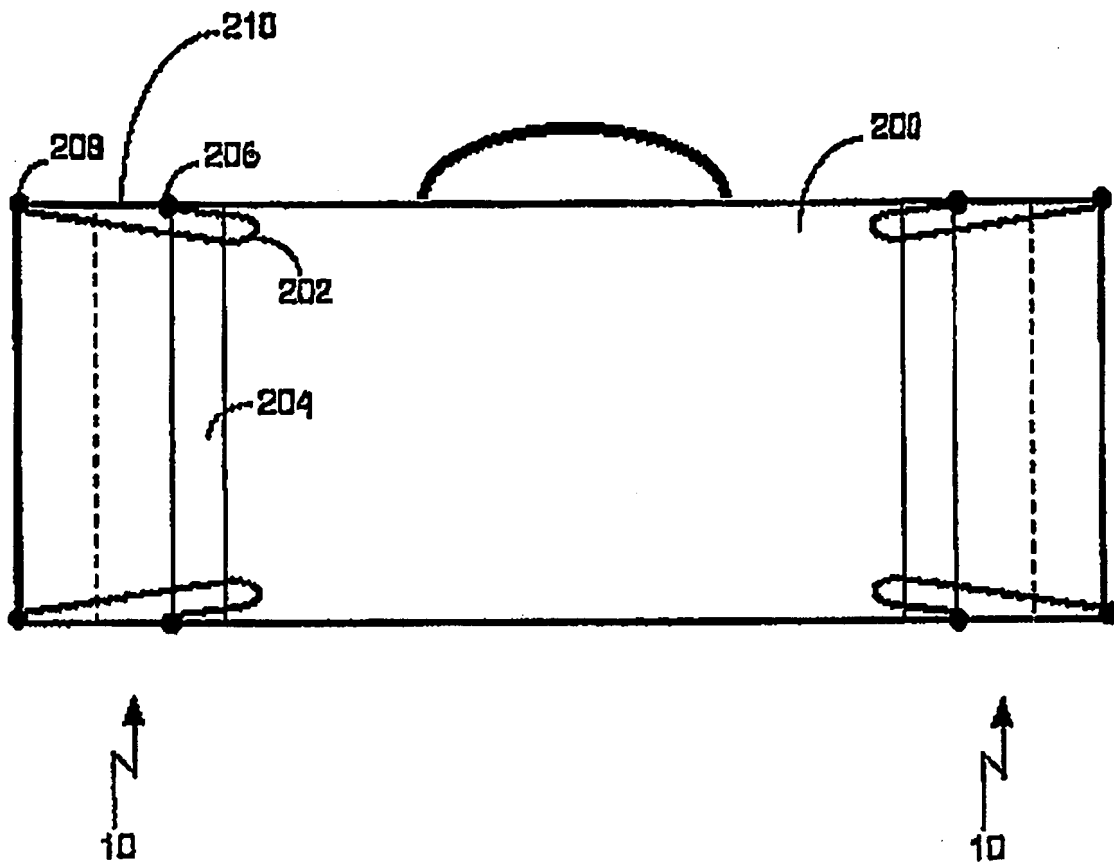
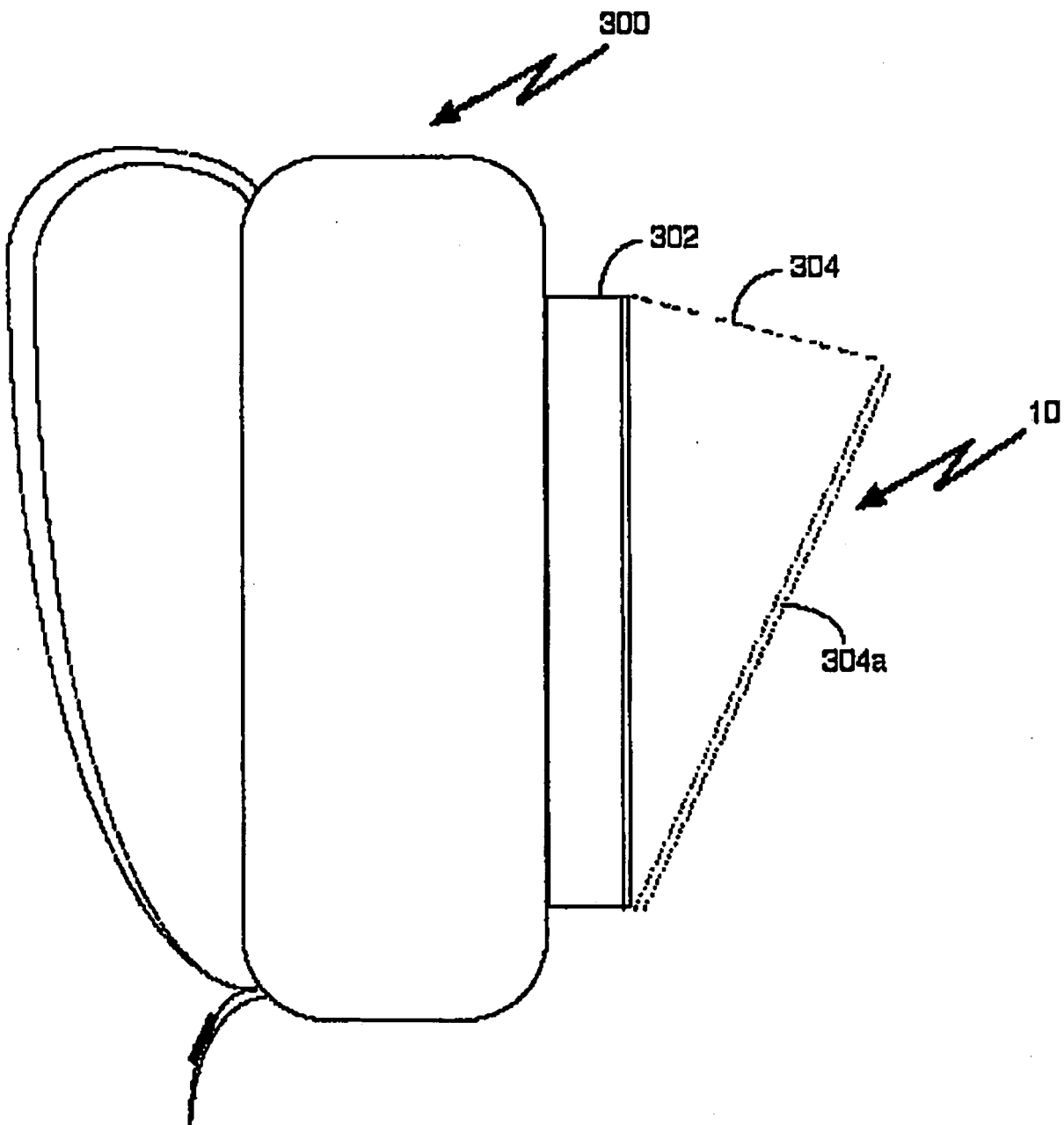


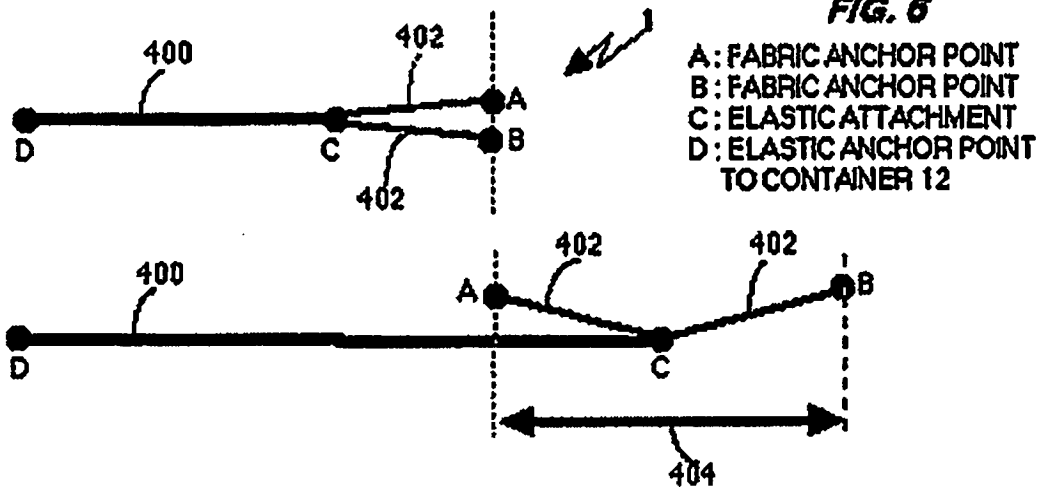
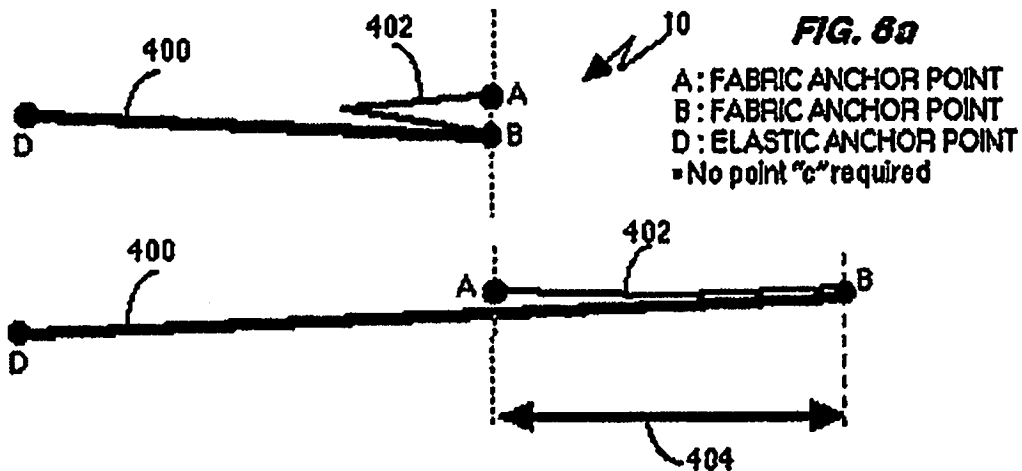
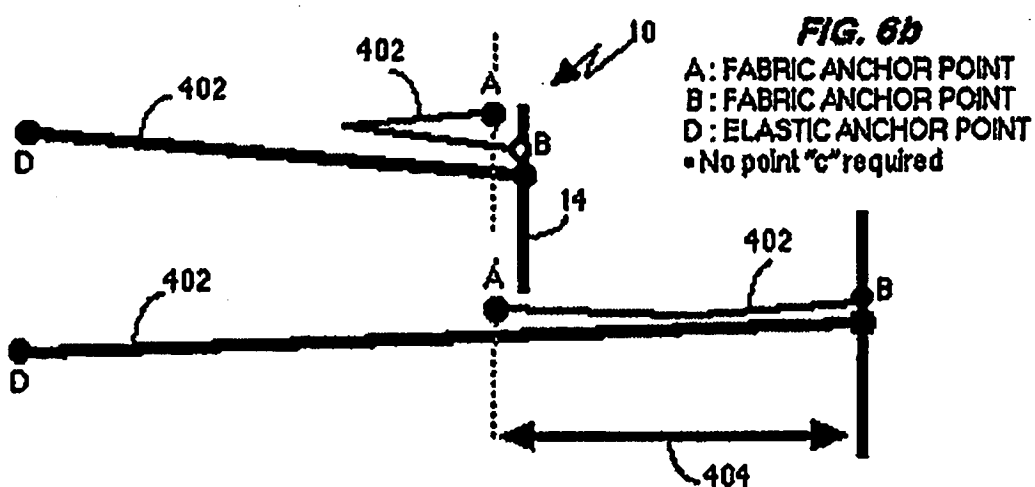
FIG. 2



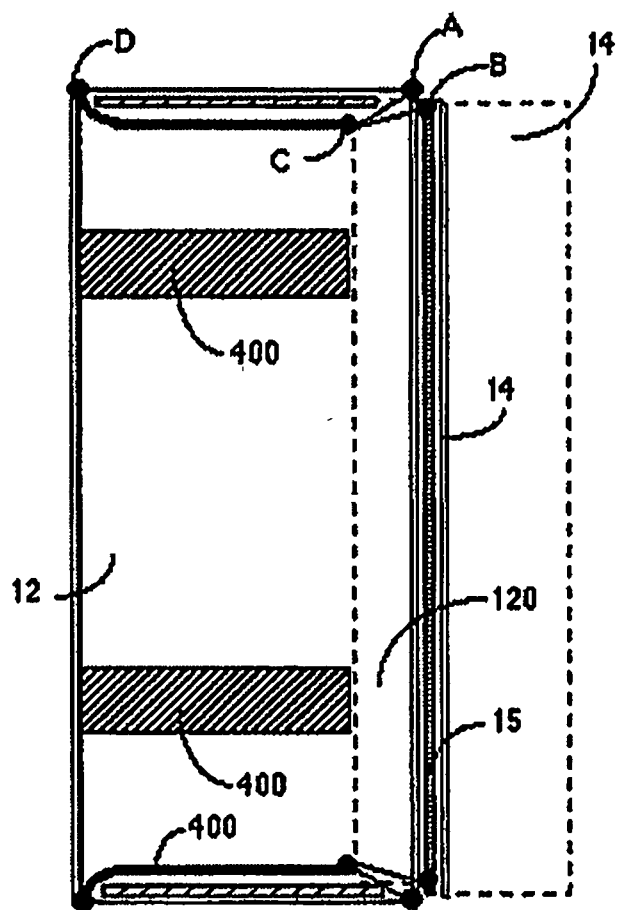
**FIG. 4**



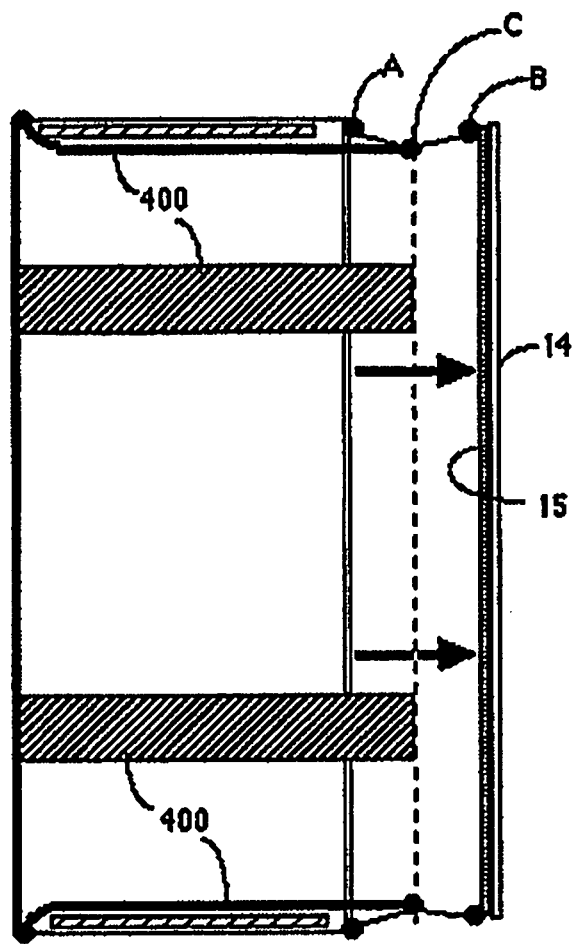
**FIG. 5**

**FIG. 6****FIG. 6a****FIG. 6b**



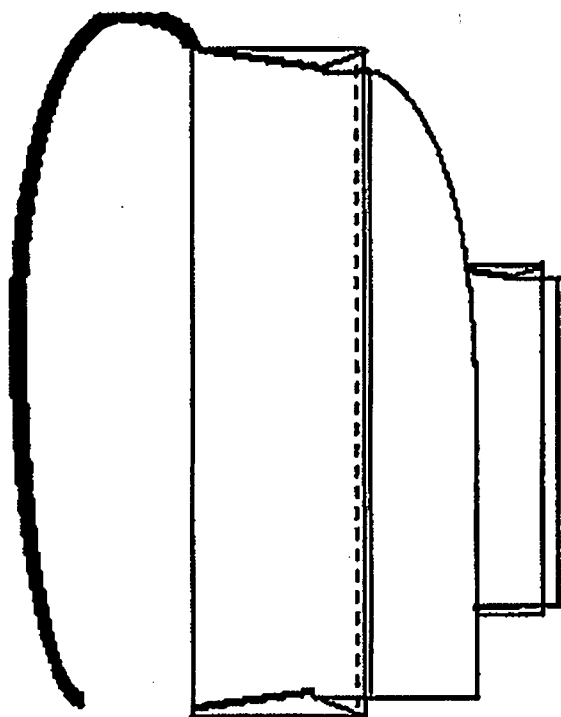


**FIG. 7**

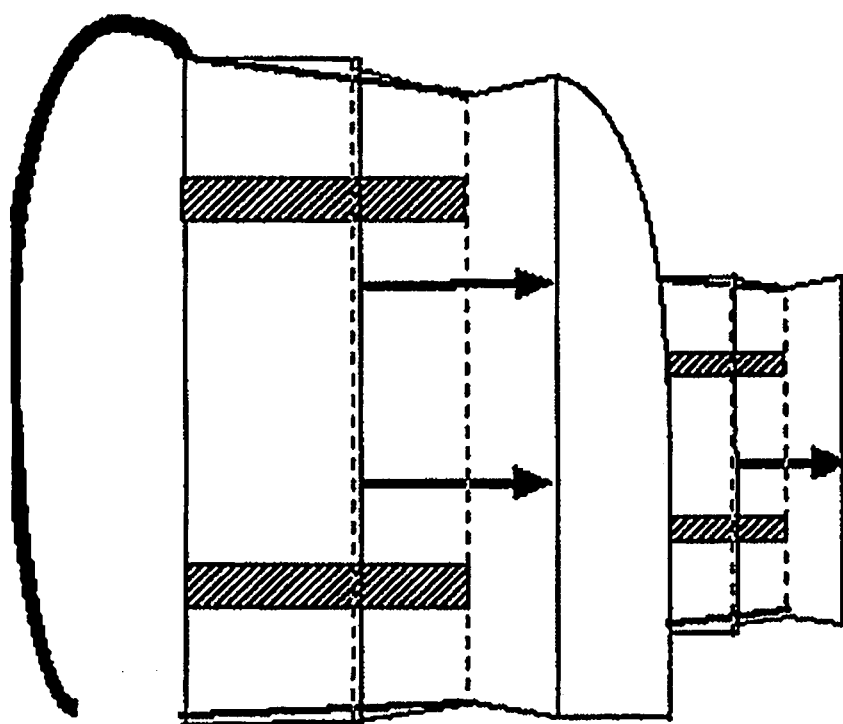


**FIG. 7a**

## SINGLE EXPANSION APPLICATION

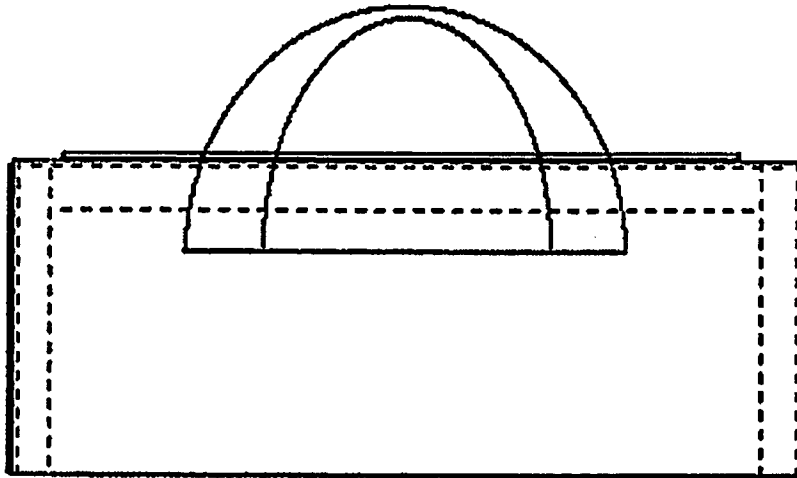


*FIG. 8*

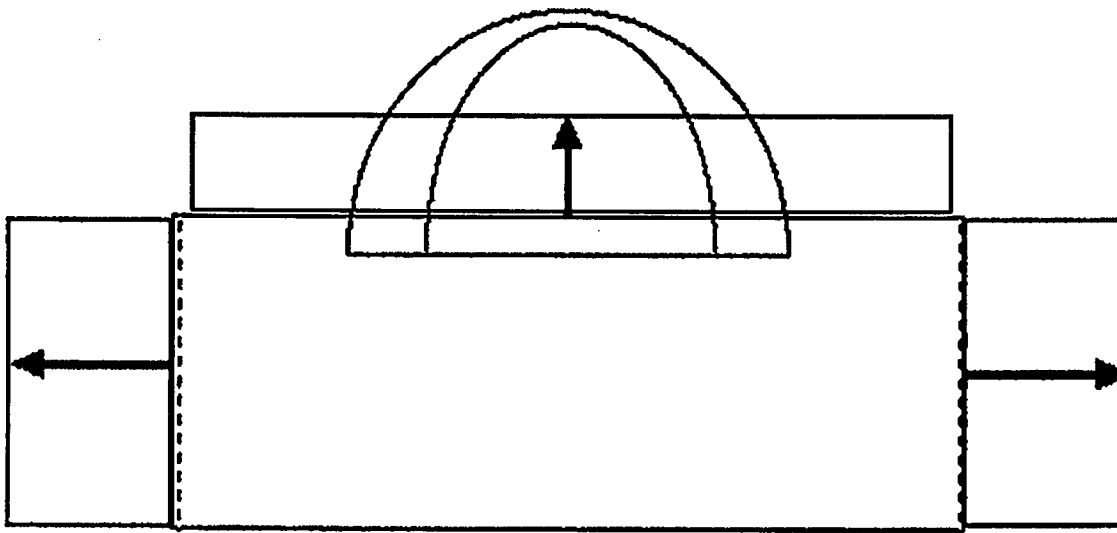


*FIG. 8a*

DOUBLE EXPANSION APPLICATION

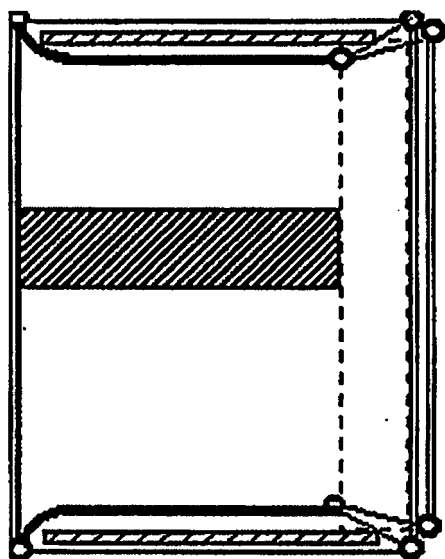


*FIG. 9*

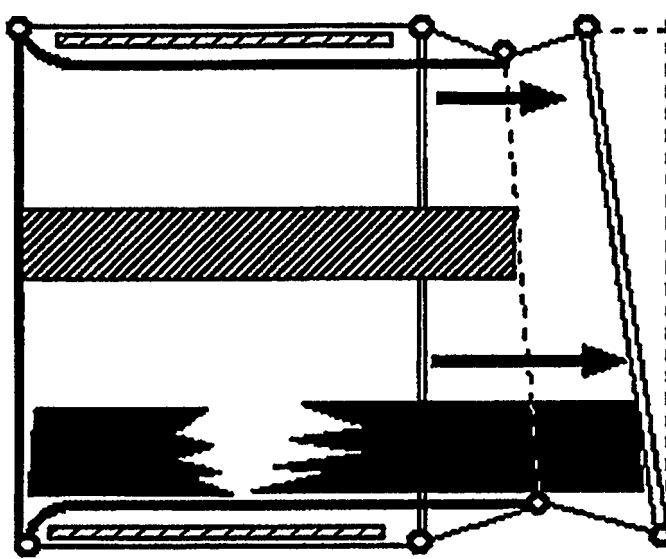


*FIG. 9a*

MULTIPLE EXPANSION  
APPLICATION



*FIG. 10*



*FIG. 10a*

UNEVEN EXPANSION OF A SINGLE PANEL

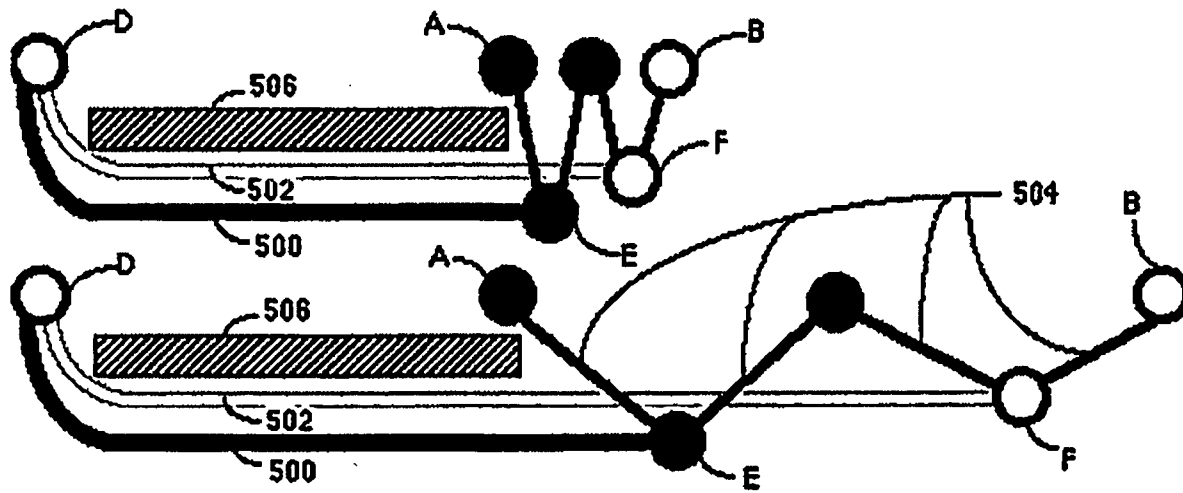


FIG. 11

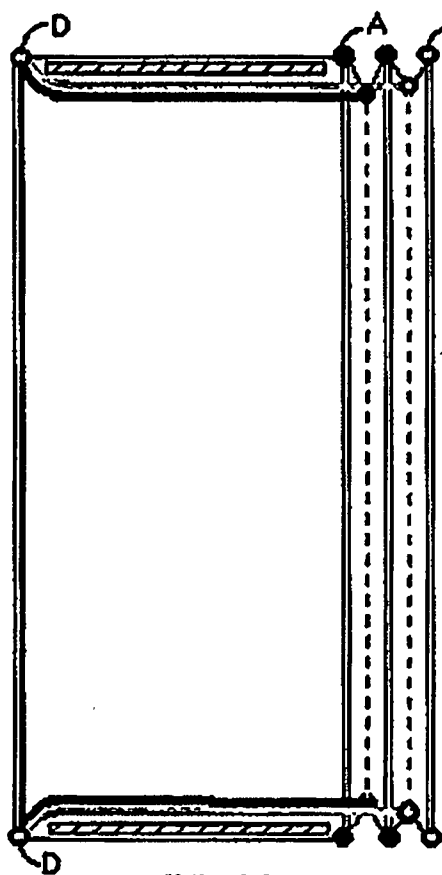


FIG. 11a

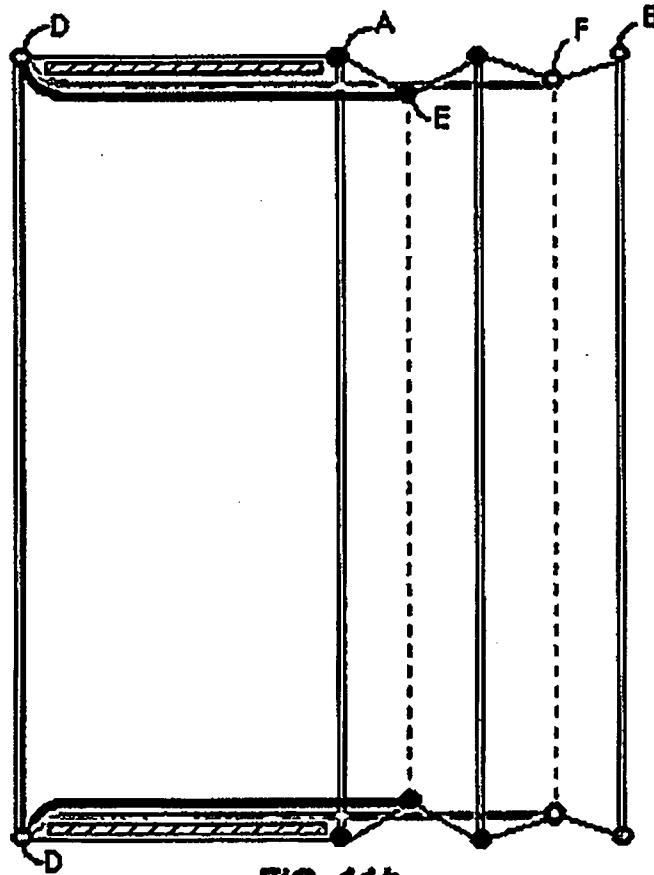


FIG. 11b

MULTIPLE EXPANSIONS OF THE SAME SIDE